Conversion of roadside area into private parking area in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

164. SHRI ANDAND PRAKASH GAUTAM:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) under what provision the road and the pavement near the Government Colony in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi has been converted into parking place by the Delhi Traffic Police for commercial benefit of M/s. Modern Bazar and Hotel Vasant Continental;

(b) whether it is a fact that the parking is resulting in great inconvenience to the pedestrians;

(c) whether it is also a fact that representations have been received for declaring the area as Tow Away Zone;

(d) whether it is also a fact that more and more Taxi Stands are being allowed in the area making it highly vulnerable to traffic hazards; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken to keep the area safe for the pedestrians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No parking place has been provided by Delhi Traffic Police in this area for anyone's commercial benefit. Parking place, however, has been arranged on both sides of the concerned road for the use of general public, including foreigners who come for shopping in the nearby Shopping Centre.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Two written representations have been received by the Police.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Directive issued by the Head Priest of Dawoodi Bohras to stop using bank services

165. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the recent directive issued by the Head Priest of Dawoodi Bohras to his followers to stop using bank services;

(b) whether Government consider such a directive as violation of the fundamental right under the Constitution guaranteeing freedom of individual vocation; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question of taking any steps in the matter would arise only if any individual of the Bohra community is visited upon with any social disability for dis-regard of such a directive and the aggrieved individual seeks enforcement of his rights under the Constitution. The question of constitutionality or otherwise of such a directive can be examined only by the Competent Courts. However, the Govt. of Maharashtra has been asked to look into this matter for appropriate action.

GATT negotiations at Montreal

166. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India participated in the GATT Negotiations held from December 9 to 12, 1988 at Montreal;

(b) if so, what was the composition of the Indian delegation; and

(c) whether it is a fact that due to disagreement on three major areas the Indian delegation did not give its assent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) India participated in the Ministerial level meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations held at Montreal from 5-9 December, 1988.

(b) The composition of the Indian delegation is attached. (*see statement below*)

(c) Whereas results were achieved at the Montreal meeting in a number of areas covered by the negotiations, no agreement could be reached on four subjects (namely, textiles and clothing, safeguards, agriculture and trade related aspects of intellectual property rights) Owing to disagreement in these key areas, the results achieved on other items were put "on hold" until the next meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee scheduled for the first week of April 1989, when the entire package of subjects would be reviewed. The decision was taken by consensus and the Indian delegation did not express any contrary view.

Statement

Composition of India delegation

1. Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of Commerce.
2. Shri A.N. Varma, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
3. Shri S.J.S. Chhatwal, High Commissioner, High Commission of India, Ottawa.
4. Shri M. Dubey, Secretary (IO), Ministry of External Affairs.
5. Shri S.P. Shukla, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva.
6. Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Special Secretary, Prime Minister's Office.
7. Shri A.V. Ganesan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industry.
8. Shri A. Hoda, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
9. Shri S.S. Rajan, Counsellor, High Commission of India, Ottawa.
10. Shri P.S. Randhawa, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva.
11. Shri Rakesh Mohan, Private Secretary to Commerce Minister.

Murder of a Congress (I) MLA in Andhra Pradesh

167. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any report from Andhra Pradesh Government on the murder of a Congress(I) MLA in the state; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No specific report on the murder as such has been received from the State Government.

(b) According to available information, Shri V. M. Ranga Rao, MLA (Congress-I), who was on an indefinite fast from the night of 22.12.1988 protesting against the alleged insult meted out to him by the police, was murdered in the early hours of 26.12.1988 by some unknown assailants. Bombs are reported to have been hurled at those sitting on the indefinite fast and they were attacked with sharp edged weapons.